

purpose and length of the trip, and shall submit such request directly to the Chairman.

(2) Committee Staff Requests. Committee Staff requesting authorization for such travel shall state the purpose and length of the trip, and shall submit such request through their supervisors to the staff director and the Chairman.

(c) Notification to Members.

(1) Generally. Members shall be notified of all foreign travel of Committee Staff not accompanying a Member.

(2) Content. All Members are to be advised, prior to the commencement of such travel, of its length, nature, and purpose.

(d) Trip Reports.

(1) Generally. A full report of all issues discussed during any travel shall be submitted to the Chief Clerk of the Committee within a reasonable period of time following the completion of such trip.

(2) Availability of Reports. Such report shall be:

(A) available for the review of any Member or Committee Staff; and

(B) considered executive session material for purposes of these rules.

(e) Limitations on Travel.

(1) Generally. The Chairman is not authorized to permit travel on Committee business of Committee Staff who have not satisfied the requirements of subsection (d) of this rule.

(2) Exception. The Chairman may authorize Committee Staff to travel on Committee business, notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (d) and (e) of this rule—

(A) at the specific request of a Member of the Committee; or

(B) in the event there are circumstances beyond the control of the Committee Staff hindering compliance with such requirements.

(f) Definitions. For purposes of this rule the term "reasonable period of time" means:

(1) no later than 60 days after returning from a foreign trip; and

(2) no later than 30 days after returning from a domestic trip.

(C) DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

(a) Generally. The Committee shall immediately consider whether disciplinary action shall be taken in the case of any member of the Committee Staff alleged to have failed to conform to any rule of the House of Representatives or to these rules.

(b) Exception. In the event the House of Representatives is:

(1) in a recess period in excess of 3 days; or

(2) has adjourned sine die; the Chairman of the full Committee, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, may take such immediate disciplinary actions deemed necessary.

(c) Available Actions. Such disciplinary action may include immediate dismissal from the Committee Staff.

(d) Notice to Members. All Members shall be notified as soon as practicable, either by facsimile transmission or regular mail, of any disciplinary action taken by the Chairman pursuant to subsection (b).

(e) Reconsideration of Chairman's Actions. A majority of the Members of the full Committee may vote to overturn the decision of the Chairman to take disciplinary action pursuant to subsection (b).

18. BROADCASTING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Whenever any hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee is open to the public, a majority of the Committee may permit that hearing or meeting to be covered, in whole or in part, by television broadcast, radio broadcast, and still photography, or by any of such methods of coverage, sub-

ject to the provisions and in accordance with the spirit of the purposes enumerated in the Rules of the House.

19. COMMITTEE RECORDS TRANSFERRED TO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

(a) Generally. The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(b) Notice of Withholding. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the full Committee for a determination of the question of public availability on the written request of any Member of the Committee.

20. CHANGES IN RULES

(a) Generally. These rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by vote of the full Committee.

(b) Notice of Proposed Changes. A notice, in writing, of the proposed change shall be given to each Member at least 48 hours prior to any meeting at which action on the proposed rule change is to be taken.

ENCOURAGING PEACE TALKS IN SRI LANKA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to encourage a new round of peace talks between the Sri Lankan Government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, LTTE, also known as the Tamil Tigers. Recent conciliatory actions by the Sri Lankan Government, as well as strong international support for peace, offers progress in finding a resolution to this conflict. However, the Tamil Tigers need to be encouraged to return to the negotiating table in order to continue this momentum towards peace.

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Sri Lanka, Mr. Speaker, is a nation that has suffered a tremendous loss of nearly 65,000 lives due to a long-standing conflict between Sri Lankans and the Tamil Tigers. Finally, on February 22nd of last year, the Norwegian Government brokered a cease-fire signed by both groups, but the peace process remains far from complete.

Excluded from a preliminary conference held in Washington this April, the Tamil Tigers then withdrew from participating in the Tokyo Donor Conference that is currently taking place. However, recent developments on the part of the Sri Lankan Government and the international community offer some progress. On Monday, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka offered a provisional administrative structure for the Tamil majority region of the island, a step toward meeting a central demand of the Tamil Tigers for resuming peace talks.

The Tigers have said they would return to the negotiating table only if an interim administration in the Tamil-majority north and east was established, and the Prime Minister's proposal does just that. Having taken this important step, the Prime Minister must further lay out a more specific outline for addressing the Tamil Tigers' concerns.

The movement towards peace in Sri Lanka is further solidified by the vast influx of international support for peace on the island. At the Donor meeting in Tokyo, host Japan has already pledged \$1 billion in assistance. Another \$1 billion has been offered by the Asian Development Bank, and a spokesman for the European Union said it will contribute \$290 million over the next 3 years. The U.S. has committed to \$54 million in aid, and the World Bank recently announced before the conference that it would provide Sri Lanka with \$200 million a year for 4 years.

Mr. Speaker, these donations show an enormous interest by the international community in rebuilding postconflict Sri Lanka and finding a peaceful resolution. Any aid will come with strict conditions in an effort to provide the international community with the ability to compel the Sri Lankan Government and the Tamil Tigers to move quickly toward resolving their conflict.

Mr. Speaker, I have to say the atmosphere for peace in Sri Lanka, I think, is right. Strong international financial and moral support for peace, and recent Sri Lankan compromises to the Tamil Tigers will hopefully lead to the Tamil Tigers' return to the negotiating table and, hopefully, eventually lead to a peaceful resolution in Sri Lanka.

REVISIONS TO THE FISCAL YEAR 2004 BUDGET RESOLUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. NUSSLE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with section 507 of H. Con. Res. 95 and consistent with section 310 of the Congressional Budget Act, I submit for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD revisions to the fiscal year 2004 budget resolution to reflect the enactment of H.R. 2, the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 (P.L. 108-27).

Section 201 of the budget resolution (H. Con. Res. 95) directed the Committee on Ways and Means to report a bill that would increase outlays and reduce revenue by specified amounts. The conference report accompanying H.R. 2 exceeded the target for outlays, but reduced revenue by less than the amount allowed under the revenue target.

Since the overage in outlays was within 20 percent of the total cost of the bill and was offset on the revenue side, as permitted under section 310 of the Budget Act, the conference report was deemed to be in compliance with its reconciliation instructions.

I am, therefore, adjusting the 302(a) allocation to the Committee on Ways and Means to